SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am concluding. I demand a full-fledged discussion in the House. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (JHARKHAND): Sir, the only point I would like to make here is that let the Government respond to that issue which has been raised in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister is not here. In Zero Hour, the Chair cannot compel the Government to respond.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I do not know why it has been accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I cannot answer. That has been admitted by the hon. Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Reddy.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, we will give a notice for having a separate discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister is here. Let him respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chatterjee, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no; this is not right. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not right. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not right. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Siddiqui, please sit down. We have to follow the rules. When you give a notice under Zero Hour, it is a well-laid rule and convention that only three minutes are given, and asking for a response during Zero Hour, I would like to remind, is not a right. We have removed it from the rules. There is no rule for Zero Hour issues. In the rules, there is no Zero Hour, but still by convention, we are allowing you to raise matters of urgent public importance to just mention them. But if you want to have the response of the Government immediateJy, why do you give a notice under Zero Hour? You should ask for a discussion under any other rule. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair can't ask the Government to respond to Zero Hour submissions. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is for the Government to decide. ...*(Interruptions)*... If it wants to respond, let it respond. I have no objection. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair can't ask the Government, "You please respond". ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): We are demanding a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government is there. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is listening to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ravula Chandra Sekar Reddy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Demand for Safe Return of Andhra Pradesh Labourers Stranded in the U.A.E. and other Gulf Countries and Providing them Employment

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have been trying to raise this issue since 21st August. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is an urgent

and important issue pertaining to the people of Andhra Pradesh. About two lakhs of people are now stranded in the UAE and other Gulf countries. The authorities in the UAE and other Gulf countries have decided to send the labourers back, and they have directed them to leave the country by September, 2007. The poor labourers had gone there in search of work and they were misled by agents. Now, they are stranded there. They are suffering from lack of facilities. Water connection and power connection to their colonies have been removed. They are worried. Their family members back home are in a panic situation. The State Government has miserably failed to protect the people and to make arrangements for their safe return to Andhra Pradesh. I demand, at least, the Government of India should intervene, see to it, if possible, that the cut-off date is extended and make necessary arrangements like chartered flights so that the people can come back safely. They don't have money to buy tickets. They don't have valid documents in their hands. They are with the agents. All their visas have expired and they are now worried about their well being in those countries. I demand that the Government of India should make necessary arrangements immediately for their safe return. This is one thing.

Secondly, if possible, the Government of India should talk to their counterparts in the UAE and other Gulf countries and see whether there is any possibility of extending the cut-off date.

The third demand is that on their return they should be provided employment. Otherwise, there is going to be a big problem in Andhra Pradesh. Most of these people belong to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other minority communities. They went there believing the agents and now they are in the clutches of the agents and have no valid documents. The plight of the people back home should also be considered on humanitarian grounds. Since the hon. Minister is present in this House, I request him to respond and help the people.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh. Sir, the State Government ...*(Interruptions)*... It is wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, would like to respond? ...*(Interruption)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sri, the State Government is ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, I am expecting a reply from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Minister is willing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister wants to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. Minister wants to respond. *(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, please don't bring politics into this. This is really a matter of concern for the Government and the people. I will try to explain. I have seen the report. Amnesty has been declared by the UAE and thereafter Kuwait and other countries also. We are in touch with them and the UAE Embassy, as well as, the Consulate General's office have been alerted. They have done a very good job, I should say. When I came to know that there were a large number of persons from Andhra Pradesh and

only knew Telugu, immediately the MEA had been alerted and I had discussed it with them. The MEA brought persons, who knew the language, working in other Gulf countries to Dubai and other places to deal with them and opened camps. Everything has been arranged. So far, 42,000 out-passes have been issued; 25,000 passports have been issued. Apart from that, some of the Indian companies like ET and others have put up boxes so that those who are eligible for further employment in the country can put their applications in the camp itself. We made that arrangement also.

As far as flights are concerned, I had a discussion with my colleague, Shri Praful Patel, 10 or 15 days ago, and in turn he talked to the Air India Chairman. I am in touch with him. Three days ago I talked to him and told him that there was a need to increase the frequency of Air India flights a little more. The direction has been given. The Consulate Generals and the Ambassadors are holding discussions with the Air India officials there. As of today, two regular Indian Airlines flights are going full. The capacity of one flight is 245. They are flying from Sharjah to Hyderabad via Mumbai. There is one Emirates flight and one Air India flight. In the next week there would be rush because the amnesty date is extended only by two weeks. The Air India is discussing it and decided to have one week, and as the rush is increasing, they have decided to have more flights, In this connection, I also wrote a letter to all the Chief Ministers of many States, including Dr. Rajasekhara Reddy. They have responded to me, Sir, so far, no complaints have been received. We are talking everyday. I have to compliment the Embassy as well as, the Office of the Consulate General, because they are doing a good job. If there is any complaint, we will definitely take that into account. The main thing is amnesty flights have to reduce the fare. If there is any problem, we can look into it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Abu Asim Azmi.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, the problem is ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government has responded. ...*(Interruptions)*... Whatever you have to say, you convey it to him.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, they do not have money. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has given a detailed reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... He will look into all those matters. He is seized of the situation. Leave it to the Government. They are seized of the situation. Shri Abu Asim Azmi.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, the Government of India can ....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is seized of the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, if there is any problem, definitely, I will talk to the Ambassador, voluntary organisations and other associations.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, there is a special fund for that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is seized of the matter. He is assuring that he will do whatever is possible. What else can be done? ...*(Interruptions)*... He knows there is a special fund. Now, Shri Abu Asim Azmi.

Undue dealy in issuing Passports to Minorities

श्री अबू आसिम आज़मी (उत्तर प्रदेश): वाइस चेयरमैन सर, सरकार की गलत पॉलिसियों से ह्यूमन राइट्स का बड़े पैमाने पर वॉयलेशन हो रहा है। मैं आज सदन के सामने एक अर्जेंट पब्लिक मैटर को लाना चाहता हूं। सर, पासपोर्ट बनवाने में हर रोज लोगों की शिकायतें आ रही हैं और इसमें भी खासतौर से अकलियत तबके से। आज अकलियत तबके को इस मुल्क में एक दहशतगर्द के रूप में मशहूर कर दिया गया है। ये लोग पासपोर्ट बनवाने के लिए एप्लीकेशन्स देते हैं, तो दो-दो साल तक उनका पासपोर्ट नहीं बनता है। ये लोग पुलिस स्टेशन तथा पासपोर्ट आफिस के चक्कर लगा-लगाकर थक गए हैं। अगर उनके फॉर्म में कोई गलती होती है, तो उनको इन्फॉर्म कर देना चाहिए कि आपके फार्म में यह गलती है, आपका पासपोर्ट नहीं बना सकते हैं। यदि किसी के ऊपर कोई केस दर्ज हो जाए, पॉलिटिकल केस हो जाए, तो उसको पासपोर्ट नहीं मिलता है। जब कि दूसरी ओर दहशतगर्द लोग हैं, जिनके ऊपर टाडा के अंतर्गत मुकदमा चल रहा और सजा हो रही है, ऐसे लोगों को पासपोर्ट देकर, अमेरिका और लंदन जाने की परमिशन दी जा रही है। जो इस मुल्क में रहते हैं, इनोसेंट लोग हैं और जिनकी कोई गलती भी नहीं है, उनका पासपोर्ट इसलिए नहीं बनता है, क्योंकि उनकी फैमिलीज के किसी आदमी पर कोई मुकदमा दर्ज हो गया था। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यह कौन सा कानून है कि यदि परिवार का कोई एक आदमी किसी मुकदमें में बंद हो गया और उसको सजा भी नहीं हुई, फिर भी उसका पासपोर्ट नहीं बना? अगर उसको सजा हो भी जाए, तो क्या उसकी बीवी और बच्चों को सजा मिलेगी? वह कहता है कि मैं पासपोर्ट आफिस में जा-जा कर थक चुका हूं, मैं फॉरेन मिनिस्टर साहब से मिल-मिल कर थक चुका हूं, होम मिनिस्टर साहब को ख़त लिखकर थक चुका हूं, मगर कोई रेस्पॉंस देने को तैयार नहीं है। आप उसको ख़त लिख दीजिए, लैटर भेज दीजिए कि तुम्हारी यह गलती है, यह लिख दीजिए कि तुम्हारा बाप क्रिमनल था, उस पर मुकदमा चल रहा था, इसलिए पासपोर्ट नहीं देगे। यह भी लिख कर नहीं दिया जा रहा है। यह ह्यूमन राट्स का एक बहुत बड़ा वॉयलेशन किया जा रहा है। सर, मैं एक मुम्बई का किस्सा आपको बताता हूं कि मुम्बई के अंदर एक आदमी हनीफ कड़ावाला टाडा के अंदर पकड़ लिया था। मुझे मालूम है कि उसकी क्या इन्वॉलविंग थी। उसकी यही गलती थी कि उसने संजय दत्त का घर बता दिया था। इसके अलावा उसकी और कोई गलती नहीं थी। उसके जेल से छूटने के बाद कुछ लोगों ने उसकी हत्या भी कर दी और उसके बच्चे यतीम हो गए। उसकी बच्ची बेचारी अपना पासपोर्ट बनवाने के लिए आवेदन कर रही है, वह पिछले दो साल से हमारे जैसे पढ़े-लिखे लोगों के यहां चक्कर लगा-लगा कर और पासपोर्ट आफिस के चक्कर लगा-लगा कर थक चुकी है। उसको न तो कोई जवाब दिया जा रहा है और न ही उसका पासपोर्ट बनाया जा रहा है। सर, ऐसी भी शिकायतें आई हैं कि बहुत से लोग पॉलिटिकल एजिटेशन करते हैं, उन पर कोई मुकदमा दर्ज हो जाता है, तो उसका पासपोर्ट बनाकर नहीं दिया जाता है। उससे यह कहा जाता है कि आप जाइए और कोर्ट से आर्डर लेकर आइए। सर, कोर्ट से आर्डर लाना कितना मुश्किल काम है। कोर्ट में तो तारीख पर तारीख लगती रहती है क्योंकि वहां पर बहुत सारे मुकदमात हैं। दूसरे कोर्ट इतनी महंगी भी हो गई है कि गरीब आदमी के लिए कोर्ट जाना आसान नहीं है। सर, जिस मुल्क के अंदर एम्लॉएमेंट नहीं मिलता हो, जिस